

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Humans to Mars: HEOMD and MEPAG

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Exploration Chief Scientist (acting)

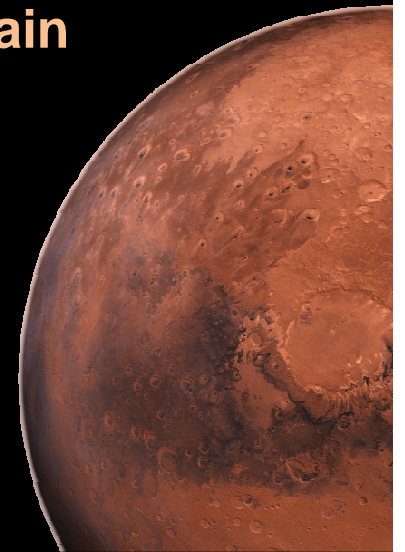
NASA Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate

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- **NASA Mars Focus**
 - NASA's singular vision
 - Asteroid Retrieval Mission (ARM)
 - Global Exploration Roadmap
- **SMD + HEOMD + STMD**
 - Historical Progress
 - Mars 2020
 - Beyond
- **Strategic Knowledge Gaps**
 - MEPAG contribution and future action
- **Human Exploration and MEPAG – turning up the gain**



For Human Exploration, All Roads Lead to Mars

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



- **NASA's vision:**
 - To reach for new heights and reveal the unknown so that what we do and learn will benefit all humankind
- **Why is Mars the new height?**
 - It is the only destination if humanity is to leave the cradle of Earth
- **How do we get to Mars?**
 - Through science, technology, commercial, international and human endeavors



The Science Road to Mars: Charting the Course

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Identify & Solve Challenges

How does weightlessness
affect human and physical
processes?

Learn to Live & Work

How do radiation and
isolation affect human
ability to live and work?

Explore & Pioneer

What's the environment and
how does it impact human
habitability?



Earth
Reliant



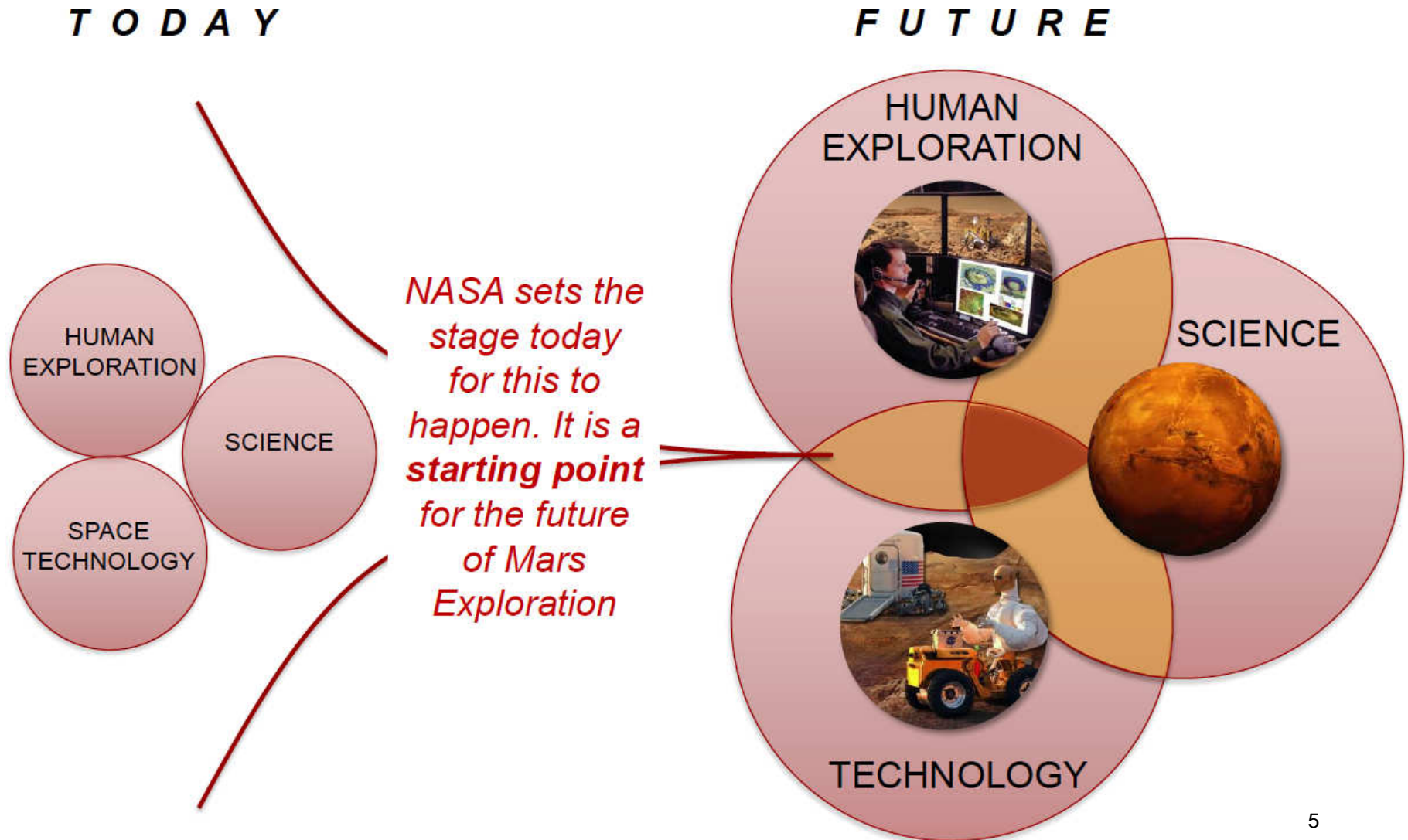
Proving Ground



Earth
Independent

Science

Vision Basis for Cross Cutting Mars Exploration



HUMAN EXPLORATION

NASA's Path to Mars



EARTH RELIANT

MISSION: 6 TO 12 MONTHS

RETURN TO EARTH: HOURS



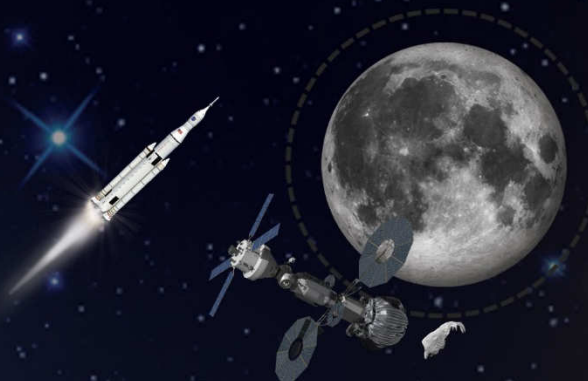
Mastering fundamentals
aboard the International
Space Station

U.S. companies
provide access to
low-Earth orbit

PROVING GROUND

MISSION: 1 TO 12 MONTHS

RETURN TO EARTH: DAYS



Expanding capabilities by
visiting an asteroid redirected
to a lunar distant retrograde orbit

The next step: traveling beyond low-Earth
orbit with the Space Launch System
rocket and Orion spacecraft



MARS READY

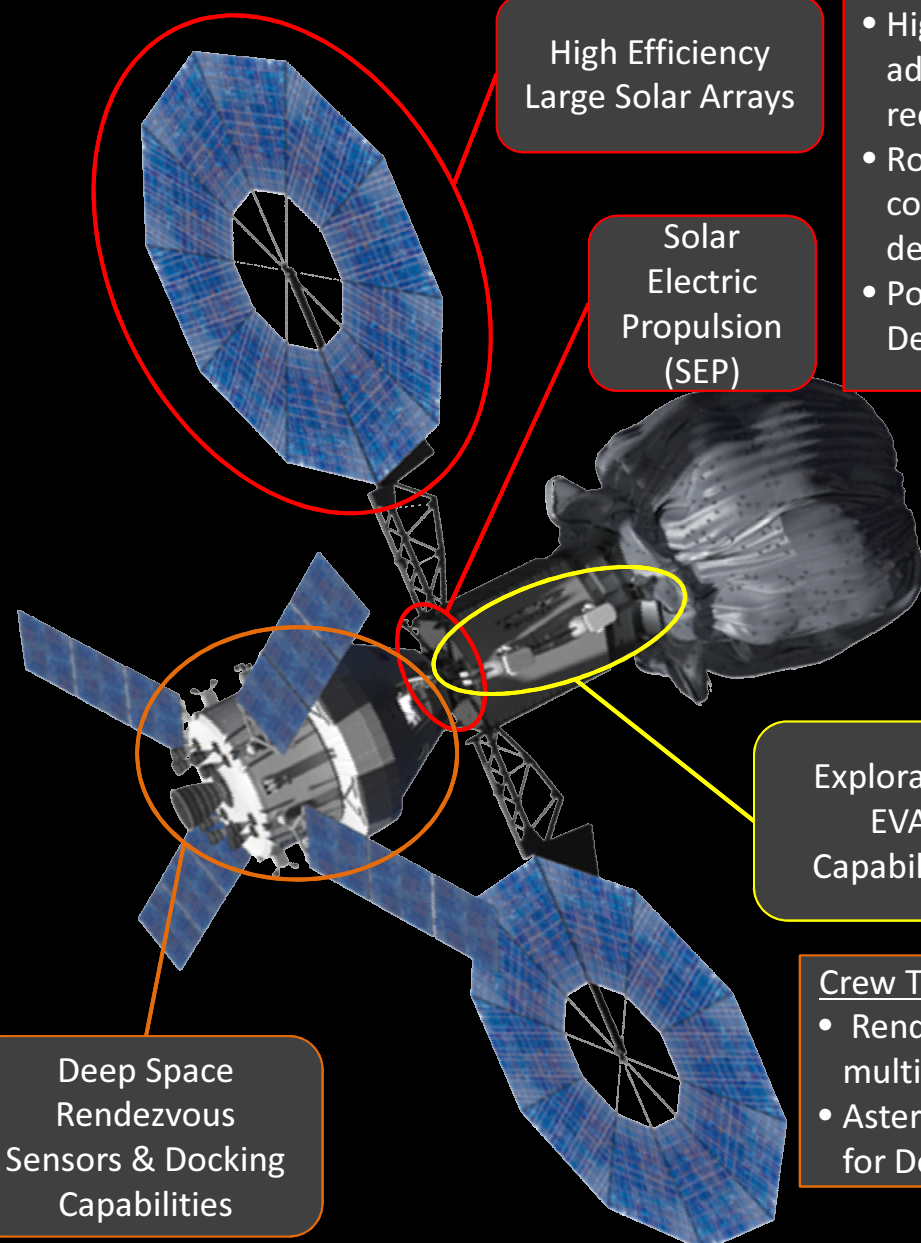
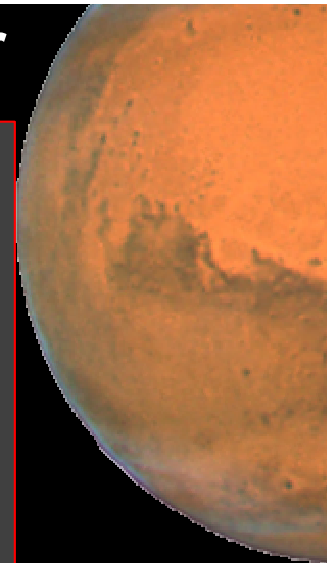
MISSION: 2 TO 3 YEARS

RETURN TO EARTH: MONTHS



Developing planetary independence
by exploring Mars, its moons and
other deep space destinations

Asteroid Redirect Mission Provides Capabilities For Deep Space/Mars Missions



High Efficiency
Large Solar Arrays

Solar
Electric
Propulsion
(SEP)

Exploration
EVA
Capabilities

Deep Space
Rendezvous
Sensors & Docking
Capabilities

In-space Power and Propulsion :

- High Efficiency Solar Arrays and SEP advance state of art toward capability required for Mars
- Robotic ARM mission 40kW vehicle components prepare for Mars cargo delivery architectures
- Power enhancements feed forward to Deep Space Habitats and Transit Vehicles

EVA:

- Build capability for future exploration through Primary Life Support System Design which accommodates Mars
- Test sample collection and containment techniques including planetary protection
- Follow-on missions in DRO can provide more capable exploration suit and tools

Crew Transportation and Operations:

- Rendezvous Sensors and Docking Systems provide a multi-mission capability needed for Deep Space and Mars
- Asteroid Initiative in cis-lunar space is a proving ground for Deep Space operations, trajectory, and navigation.

Global Exploration Roadmap



2013

2020

2030

International Space Station

General Research and Exploration
Preparatory Activities

Note: ISS partner agencies have agreed to use the ISS until at least 2020.

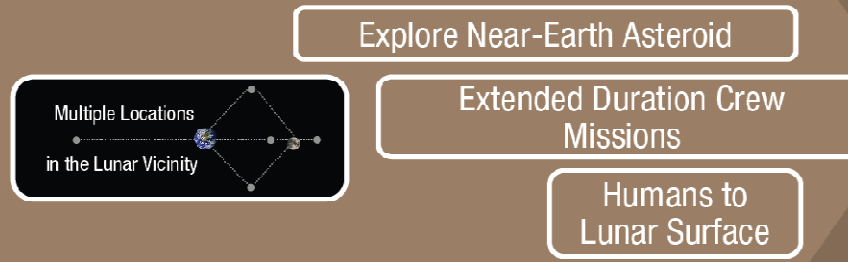
Commercial or Government Low-Earth Orbit Platforms and Missions

Robotic Missions to Discover and Prepare



Mars Sample
Return and
Precursor
Opportunities

Human Missions Beyond Low-Earth Orbit



Missions to Deep Space and Mars System

Sustainable Human Missions to Mars Surface

Collaboration Among SMD, HEOMD and STMD



- **HEOMD (then HEDS) participated in the formation of MEPAG and the creation of the first MEPAG Goals/Objectives/Investigations document**
- **Continuous Human Exploration representation on MEPAG Goals committee**
- **Human Exploration participation in Mars Odyssey, Phoenix, Curiosity**
- **MEPAG inputs into Strategic Knowledge Gaps (SKGs)**
- **Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD) a relatively new, but important player**

Mars 2020

Collaboration Among SMD, HEOMD and STMD



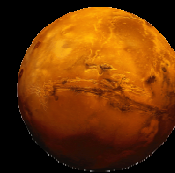
Mars 2020 will seek signs of past life on Mars, collect and store a set of soil and rock samples that could be returned to Earth in the future, and test new technology to benefit future robotic and human exploration of Mars.

HEOMD / SMD / STMD are jointly sponsoring investigations to address high priority strategic knowledge gaps and technology development objectives for Human Exploration

- Mars Entry, Descent and Landing Instrumentation (MEDLI) to refine atmospheric entry models to inform future landing system design
- Exploration technology payloads that make significant progress towards filling at least one major Strategic Knowledge Gap.

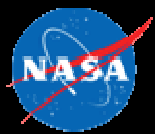


Strategic Knowledge Gaps



- **A Strategic Knowledge Gap (SKG) is an unknown or incomplete data set that contributes risk or cost to future human Mars missions**
 - **Apollo example – Footpads oversized due to poor knowledge of lunar soil bearing strength**
- **SKGs are not unique to human exploration; all NASA missions are designed based upon what is known and what is not.**
- **Science measurements are the greatest source of strategic Knowledge that has benefitted future human Mars exploration.**

[illegible]



The SKG Continuum- What's Left to Know?



- For the past 50 years, robotic missions have contributed data that reduces the risks of future human Mars exploration

No data,
Most “unknowns”

No unknown data sets,
Planet completely characterized



- There's more to know, but we're well on our way



Current Mars Strategic Knowledge Gaps (SKG's) 1/4



- Mars Atmosphere
 - Upper atmosphere global temperature field
 - Upper atmosphere global aerosol profiles and properties
 - Upper atmosphere Global wind and wind profiles
 - Orbital particulate environment
 - Lower atmosphere- global surface pressure; local weather
 - Lower atmosphere- surface winds
 - Lower atmosphere – EDL profile
 - Lower atmosphere – electrification
- Landing Site Characterization
 - Landing Site Hazards
 - Regolith physical properties and structure
 - Landing site selection
 - Surface trafficability



Mars Strategic Knowledge Gaps (SKG's)



2/4

- Contamination
 - Back Contamination to Earth:
 - Mars Biohazards
 - Forward Contamination to Mars:
 - Identify and map special regions
 - Microbial survival, Mars conditions
- Crew Health
 - Human Health & Performance
 - Dust toxicity
- Dust Effects
 - Dust physical, chemical and electrical properties
 - Regolith physical properties and structure



Mars Strategic Knowledge Gaps (SKG's)



3/4

- ISRU Resource Potential

Atmospheric ISRU:

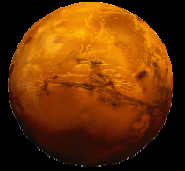
- Dust physical, chemical and electrical properties
- Dust column abundances
- Trace gas abundances

Surface ISRU:

- Hydrated mineral compositions
- Hydrated mineral occurrences
- Shallow water ice composition and properties
- Shallow water ice occurrences



Mars Strategic Knowledge Gaps (SKG's)



4/4

- Environment & Effects Radiation
 - Simultaneous spectra of solar energetic particles in space and in the surface.
 - Spectra of galactic cosmic rays in space
 - Dust Effects on Engineered Systems
- Phobos/ Deimos
 - Surface composition
 - Surface operations
 - Electric and plasma environments
 - Gravitational fields
 - Regolith properties
 - Thermal environment

SKG Version 2.0 Status

We are Here

Future
MEPAG
action

Compare
Prior
SKGs

ISECG SKGs
NASA SKGs
(Roughly Equal)

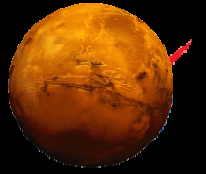
1)Correct
Inconsis-
tencies
2)Add/Re
tire as
necessar
y3)Ration
alize to
one level
of detail

HAT:
Create
Metrics,
Priority
Ranking

DPMC;
Official
NASA
Docu-
ment

Iterate
with
Analysis
Groups
and
ISECG

Human Exploration and MEPAG – turning up the gain



- **Exploration Chief Scientist**
- **MEPAG Goals Committee**
 - **Human Exploration Science**
 - **Human Exploration Engineering**
 - **Exploration Technology**



